

The Patron of Husbandry

Education Co-operation From the Field to the Factory.

UNITED BY A COMMON INTEREST & A COMMON DANGER

Volume 5.

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, MAY 3, 1879.

Number 16.

The Patron of Husbandry.

W. H. WORTHINGTON, EDITOR.

COLUMBUS, MISS., MAY 3, 1879.

We are glad to learn that the Granges in Monroe county, Miss., have been favored by a visit from the able, eloquent and zealous Lecturer of the State Grange, Bro. B. B. Boone. We print his interesting letter in another column. Like Worthy Master Darden, Worthy Lecturer Boone is one of the most active and efficient Grange leaders in the Southwest, and is destined to occupy a high place in the confidence and affections of the toiling masses of Mississippi.

The splendid letter of Col. George W. Brame, of West Point, Miss., which we print in another column, should be read in every Subordinate Grange in the Southwest. The patriotic sentiments of this noble Southern and earnest Patron, which are so forcibly and eloquently expressed, will touch a responsive chord in the breast of every true Patron in the land.

Our new heading is attracting a good deal of attention from the press and subscribers. Worthy Overseer Rose, of the Texas State Grange, writes:

"THE PATRON with its new head is beautiful. You do not know how I rejoiced to see it in its new garb and to hear of its increased circulation. The heading is an index to the contents of the paper, and it will be highly appreciated by all its friends. I have no fears of the future of any Subordinate Grange where ten of its members are regular readers of THE PATRON. I shall be still more pleased to hear of its being taken and read by twenty-five thousand Patrons in the Southwest. If THE PATRON was read every week, what a change for the better would soon take place! To that end, I shall most earnestly labor. We must make our paper a real power in the Southwest, and to do this, every true, earnest Patron should go to work and raise a club for it."

Here is a real nice compliment that we highly appreciate. It is from Worthy Master I. G. Moss, of Parker county, Texas, and was accompanied by a club of ten.

"Though the times are hard, THE PATRON, in its new dress, carries with it a charm that we cannot resist. We must have it."

Members of the Order in New Jersey, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina and other States are writing for specimen copies of THE PATRON, with the view of raising clubs.

Our correspondent, Col. Brame, thinks that farmers should stop voting for professional politicians and tricksters, whether nominated or not. And he is right. By the way, there is a strong movement of this kind in this county, and we are of the opinion that it will spread all over the State.

FARMERS ORGANIZING.

Keep the ball rolling!

We have received the following for publication. It is a step in the right direction. It is time for the people to step to the front and demand and enforce their rights in public affairs. The power of the town rings must be destroyed—they have ruled and ruined too long already.

Editor Patron: On the 26th of April, 1879, the citizens of Gray's mill and vicinity, Holmes county, Miss., organized a People's Farmer Club of twenty. They will demand equal representation with all other classes of men in both the Senate and House of the State Legislature, and that from our own votaries, subject to the Democratic Conservative convention of Holmes county, composed of delegates from said clubs. A. G. OWEN, Pres't. J. T. MAGER, Sec'y.

Our lively and interesting contemporary, THE PATRON OF HUSBANDRY, published at Columbus, Miss., comes to us this week with a new and appropriate head, and otherwise improved. May it continue to prosper.—Farmer's Friend.

THE BANNER GRANGE COUNTY OF THE SOUTH WEST.

To show how the Patrons of Bell county, Texas, work, we make the following extract from a letter from Worthy Overseer A. J. Rose, of the State Grange, dated at Salado, Bell county, April 23d:

I intended to write you fully about our "Grange week" we had here in Salado, beginning with the first Wednesday of this month, but probably others have written, as we had Bros. Kellar, Cater, and other prominent Patrons with us.

The Salado Co-operative Association met on Wednesday. Thursday, the County Grange met in our hall at 10 a. m., continued in session all day, except for refreshments. Late in the evening, supper was set in the hall by the noble sisters. We think we have as patriotic Matrons as can be found anywhere. At night, the fifth degree was conferred on over fifty. We had a crowded house—every section of the county was represented.

On Friday morning, the County Grange resumed work, and closed at 11 o'clock, when our manufacturing company met, elected a Board of Directors for the next year, and discussed the propriety of making one grand effort to start a "new process" cotton factory next fall. The Board will meet on the 15th of May to determine what course we will pursue in the matter.

At 3 p. m. the Board of Directors of the Texas Co-operative Association met and transacted some business, discussed co-operation, etc., and selected Salado as the place to hold the annual meeting, which is to take place on the second Thursday of July next.

On Saturday, Salado Grange, No. 1, held its regular meeting, with full attendance—about fifty members. Several petitions were received, and still the work goes on. The Order is not dead yet! How some are disappointed! But it must be so. At all these meetings peace and harmony prevailed, and great interest was manifested—more, I think, than I have ever witnessed before.

We take pleasure in reproducing the complimentary notice of THE PATRON from the Paris "North Texan"—one of the few political papers that is always true to the best interests of the people. Bro. A. P. Boyd is not only an able and accomplished Editor, but a first-class Publisher also, and his opinion in matters pertaining to the "art preservative" is always valuable. We are glad to see that his paper is appreciated by the people of North Texas.

THE PATRON OF HUSBANDRY, Columbus, Miss., by our old friend, W. H. Worthington, comes to us this week improved and beautified. It has the most appropriate heading we have seen, representing a union of the farmers of the country and the workmen of the towns, from which the laborers are passing with their baskets of the fleecy staple to the factory, while there is the representation of a Grange hall and school room, co-operative store, etc. THE PATRON is the organ of the State Grange of Mississippi and is one of the very best papers of the kind we ever saw anywhere, edited by a gentleman whose every impulse is to do good to the toiling masses, and who is honest in every word he utters. This paper is largely circulated in Texas and should be in the house of all our farmers.

The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation Bill, with the clauses abolishing the juror test oath and the employment of deputy marshals, and curtailing the powers of supervisors of elections, passed the House on Saturday by a vote of 140 to 119. All the Greenbackers present and not paired, except Kelley of Pennsylvania and Barlow of Vermont, voted for the bill. Before the bill was put on its passage, Weaver, Greenbacker, moved to strike out the clauses relating to supervisors and deputy marshals, but the motion was negative, ayes 123 noes 130. The Greenbackers present generally voted for Weaver's motion.

The debate on the bill in the Senate will be protracted, and will be greatly influenced and shaped by the action of Mr. Hayes on the Army Appropriation Bill. In the meantime the House will doubtless take the financial question in hand, and the probability is that the session will continue till midsummer.

On Friday evening, the Army appropriation bill, as it came from the House, passed the Senate by a vote of 40 to 18.

We have often referred to the fact that Paris ought to have a cotton compress. Although they have one already in Sherman, another and more costly one is soon to be erected. We admire the business-like way they have of pushing enterprises in that city.—North Texan, Paris.

Get your people to put up a "new process" cotton factory instead of a compress. Bro. Boyd, as will be done in this place. The compress would be thrown aside in a year or two, but a "new process" factory would be a "joy forever."

THE EXODUS.

The negro emigration to Kansas continues. Numbers are also trying to return, but they are destitute, and the Aid Societies will give them no assistance. Those corralled at Wyandotte have all been removed, except about one hundred, who are too sick for removal. About ten percent have died. The Mayor of Wyandotte wants the negroes of the South to know that there are other parts of Kansas where the opening for immigrants is far better than in the Wyandotte country.

The colored relief committee at St. Louis has split into two rival factions, which accuse each other of all sorts of rascality. It is charged that the old committee used \$2800 out of \$3,000 received, and expended only \$200 to aid immigrants.

A great aid meeting was held in New York last week. Speeches were made by Parsons Newman and Garnet, Thurlow Weed, and others, and letters read from Phillips and Garrison. All seemed more intent on cursing Southern white men and kindling the fires of hate, than on giving aid to negro emigrants.

The Cincinnati Enquirer sent out a corps of reporters to interview the Democrats of Ohio in regard to the State convention, which will meet June 4th, their choice for Governor, their views in regard to the financial question, and in regard to a coalition with the National Greenbackers. The reports of the interviews cover two of the mammoth pages of the Daily Enquirer. From a hasty scanning of these reports we gather that Gov. Bishop and Gen. Rice are the favorite candidates for Governor. Gen. Ward has many friends, and but for his "hard money" views, would have very many more.

The parties interviewed were all in favor of the free coinage of silver, and nearly all in favor of substituting greenbacks for National bank currency. A few favored the abolition of the National banks without the substitution. About ten percent were "hard money men," and fully one-half wanted such a basis for the greenbacks as would render them convertible into specie at pleasure. A very few favored expansion—"greenbacks," and plenty of them. About one-fifth wished to ignore the financial question for the State campaign. Some wanted to give John Sherman's plan a full, fair trial to see how the thing works.

In regard to coalition, a large majority, including many of the "hard money men," favored the nomination of Democrats who would—or from their known financial views should—be acceptable to the National Greenbackers. About one-fourth—and many of these were "hard money men"—also—favored a straight coalition with a fair division of the ticket, if this can be done without a sacrifice of essential principles. A small number wanted to have nothing to do with the National Greenbackers, except to let them vote the Democratic ticket, if they wish to.

Wherever these subjects were broached, Thurman was found to be the choice for President, and the attitude of the Democrats in Congress was approved.

The further progress of the campaign in Ohio will be watched with intense interest by the people of the whole Union.

Will not the friends of THE PATRON throughout the Southwest now rally to its support? A united effort would give it the largest circulation of any paper published in the South. Shall not this be done?

Mr. Hayes vetoed the Army appropriation bill on Tuesday. He accompanied the veto with a lengthy message, in which he defended the law sought to be repealed, which authorizes the employment of troops at the polls to keep the peace. Now comes the tug. We can not believe that the Democrats will recede from the position they have assumed.

Representative Clarke, of Iowa, died of meningitis on Monday evening after an illness of a few hours.

In a case before the Federal Supreme Court this week, Justice Miller declared the opinion of the Court that a juror can not be required to answer as to his connection with the rebellion. In an ex parte concurring opinion, Justice Field declared further that the act prescribing the juror's test oath was unconstitutional and void.

It is singular that Democrats in the discussion just closed did not give more prominence to the fact that the South has plenary power to correct all fraud or violence in the election of any of its members, by unseating a member elected by such violence or fraud, and either leaving the seat vacant, or giving it to the person unlawfully deprived. Under this power the House can make a full and thorough investigation of every alleged act of fraud or violence.

This corrects the evil fully so far as it affects the Union, or the people outside the district in which the fraud or violence occurs.

LETTER FROM WORTHY LECTURER B. B. BOONE, OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE GRANGE.

Editor Patron: I had the pleasure of meeting the Monroe County Grange on the 24th, which convened with Stonewall Grange near the old town of Athens. I found Stonewall Grange a live institution, and one which does credit to the Order. I delivered a lecture to the Patrons assembled, and was listened to with marked respect and apparent interest.

The County Grange met at 12 o'clock, and we had quite an interesting meeting. The Grange adjourned late in the evening, and met again at night, and remained in session until near 12 o'clock. We had several interesting speeches, and quite a fierce discussion upon the subject of co-operation. The good sisters of Stonewall Grange gave us a splendid repast at noon, which was a practical demonstration of their skill in preparing the products of the farm for the table. We had a fine turnout for the busy season. The fifth degree was conferred upon about twenty-five members. The officers were elected and installed. Everything was conducted in a style which did credit to the Patrons of the county, and especially to the officers of the County Grange. The neat hall, tastefully decorated, harmonized beautifully with the regularity of the proceedings, and presented a fit habitation for the presiding genius of our noble Order.

The Grange elected a fine set of officers, whose energy will soon tell upon the Order in Monroe. Prominent among these are Bros. Gordon, Master, Saddler, Overseer, and Tatum, Lecturer—men skilled in the work and fully imbued with the noble principles of the Order. That true and tried Matron, Sister Willis, was elected Ceres. O, that we had more such devoted Matrons in each county!

The more I mingle with the members of the Order, the more I feel it my duty to do all in my power to help them in the great work. I am satisfied that the greatest difficulty we have to encounter is the want of leaders who can arouse the people to action, and I am sure that if the prominent members of the Order in each county will lend their aid, the work will go bravely on. I have at all times tried to impress the members with the importance of taking THE PATRON. I am sure that if we could get THE PATRON circulated extensively through the State, that it will do more to revive the Order than anything we can do. I find that all those who take THE PATRON are fully alive to the great interest for which you labor.

The outlook in this section of the State is flattering. At this time, the farmers are busy, and have little time to devote to reorganization, but I am sure that the work will go bravely on. The farmers do not intend to give up the ship.

I attended the Alcorn County Grange on the 4th, and we had quite a lively and interesting meeting. All present were determined and hopeful. They seemed to be impressed with the fact that the Grange

offers the only mode of relief for them. Fraternally, B. B. BOONE.

A TIMELY AND PAURIOTIC LETTER.

Editor Patron—The overshadowing strength of the political cliques and rings of the country indicates most unmistakably that there can be no hope of reform in the condition of the laboring classes until it is effectually and thoroughly broken down. This should be the paramount question that should engage the earnest attention of every Grange within the limits of the United States. If the members could be made to realize that the burdens of an extravagant, corrupt government fall in a great measure on the products of their toils and labors, they certainly would bring about a radical and wholesome change for themselves and all other industrial classes in both town and country.

If intelligent appeals were made to the latter, a cordial co-operation could be secured, and with these forces combined, their onslaught would be irresistible and destructive. A few leading purposes would form the common bond of union, such as the abolition of the present baleful convention machinery and the selection of representative men of their own classes for official positions, the reduction of the number, and in many instances, of the salaries of officials, and last but not least, a perpetual injunction by legal methods on the issuance of any more National, State, or municipal bonds. It would be a difficult matter to convince the American people that a public debt is a public blessing, as has been contended by many pseudo political economists. The depreciation in value of real and personal estate in several of the States, cities and towns here as in other countries, gives it the lie direct. It is but candid to remark that this is not the only cause of the present depreciation. Many of our cities are on the verge of bankruptcy, others hopelessly insolvent. It has been stated that the columns of the public press that the debt of New York City is greater than the combined indebtedness of any four of the largest cities of Great Britain. Louisville has a debt of \$11,000,000 hanging over her, while Kentucky owes nothing.

Fortunate State! Unfortunate city! Many of these debts may be cancelled in the course of time, but in the meantime, through what a sea of perils and woes must the people encounter! It is not the fierce struggles with the gaunt skeleton of poverty; it is not "the strikes" for living wages, involving the frightful loss of life and property; it is not the increasing numbers of assassins, robbers and murderers infesting the highways and byways; it is not the lawless spirit of agrarianism so rapidly and powerfully evoked; it is not the gangrene of decay that has settled on every material interest, but more than all these it is the palpable loss of those lofty moral principles and purposes, that so conspicuously elevate civilized communities above the heathen and brute creation. The root of these evils must be destroyed, or in time it will be the sad lesson of history repeating itself. When Jefferson uttered the immortal sentiment that "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," it was as a note of warning to the masses of the American people, for he perhaps above all others of our statesmen was more thoroughly imbued with the conviction that in republican governments the direct tendency was to centralization, as power, open or covert, was always stealing from the many to the few, and that upon this fatal rock our liberties and our institutions might be hopelessly and forever wrecked.

The destruction of any future bonded indebtedness accomplished, it would effectually crush out the worst and most glaring of all the terrible evils of the credit system and leave one other important step to be taken by the Patrons aided and abetted by all other industrial classes, who in this, as in all governmental reforms, should be their natural allies. We allude to the destruction of our present tariff system, foundation, superstructure and all, a system of legalized robbery coeval with the history of our government by which Puritan blood-hounds have been furnished with the sinews with which they have been scourging the South to the verge of bankruptcy and poverty, and the government into the horrors of civil war, a debt of billions, a subsequent twelve years' reign, rule and ruin of unlicensed thieves and robbers, and an impending anarchy conditioned upon the inauguration and life tenure of office of Grant, unless the Socialist, the legitimate fruits of their infernal legislation should anticipate and supercede such an event. With the destruction of this colossal power that has been stabbing the government to its very vitals,

this hideous incarnation of all evil in the history of the legislation of this country, we would have established on its ruins, a direct ad valorem tax, the only just, wise and equitable tax for any people under the sun.

These are not the only reforms needed, but in these as in all others the Patrons should take the initiative, inviting the cordial co-operation of the mechanics, the artisans, the operatives, the miners and all other laborers of the country. Parties, from various motives have sought to prejudice the latter parties against the Patrons, when, if they were properly informed, they would become, as they should, natural allies. Parties are commended or condemned by the fruits they bear.

Now that the Patrons are establishing "Co-operative" business houses, other classes begin to realize their benefits. Every "New Process" Cotton Factory they erect, but strengthens them with the laboring classes. Blunders have been committed by Granges in admitting improper persons, or in other words persons whose pursuits were not congenial, into their membership, that in some instances have proved well nigh fatal. This has retarded their healthy growth, and should be sedulously guarded against in the future. In all future cases, it should be known that agriculture or its kindred pursuits was the paramount avocation of the candidate. We think the National Grange should embody in its constitution a provision, authorizing subordinate Granges to expel members for embarking in a business antagonistic to, or at variance with the letter and spirit of their constitution—or it might perhaps be modified, so as to forbid their presence in any subordinate Grange.

There is a reform the masses of the people urgently demand, and one which the Patrons must accomplish for their own welfare and protection, and that of the country at large, involving as we conceive, not necessarily, a political, still less a partisan difference of opinion. Each Grange, acting for itself, should resolve to vote for no office-seeker for office under any circumstances, nor to submit to any dictation from any court house, State capital or national cliques, so far as their wishes or interests are concerned. Were such a resolution adopted and fully carried out in letter and spirit by every subordinate Grange in the United States the present corrupt caucus machinery would be broken up. In these caucuses the Patrons are as completely ignored as though they had no existence whatever.

If they would have legislation protecting for their interests, instead of legislation discriminating against them as has been the case since the origin of the government, they must speak out unitedly at the ballot box in such tones that the clamor of the demagogues, whether in or out of office may be effectually stilled, and better men and better times inaugurated for the benefit and the blessings all the people may reap. The Patrons have arrived at that point in their history when they must war against every abuse of the Government that has so long favored directly the few against the rights and interests of the many. The question recurs, will they let their voice be heard through the ballot? There seems to be some indications that action in that direction will before long be taken. We know that you are bending every energy to speed it. Respectfully,

G. W. BRAME.

West Point, Miss., April 28.

Representative De La Matry, the Greenback champion, introduced his Billion Greenback bill at the request of another at the time of the call on the States for petitions and bills. He has since declared in the House that he does not approve the bill. We are glad of this, for his acts and utterances up to the time he introduced this wild scheme, had commended him to our high esteem.

The carrying of concealed weapons is unquestionably a great evil, that should be suppressed; but the great number of persons killed with guns and pocket-knives, shows that the curse which rests on the land strikes its roots deeper than this nefarious custom.

Boynton, who has been for some time floating down the Ohio and Mississippi in a rubber suit, reached New Orleans last Sunday.

Five-sixths of all the graduates from the Ontario (Canada) School of Agriculture, are engaged in agricultural pursuits. A tree is known by its fruits, etc.